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Yeardsley-cum-Whaley  
Urban District Council.



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF

**Dr. Fred Garnet Allan,**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR THE YEAR 1925.



WHALEY BRIDGE:

J. RICHARDSON, PRINTER.



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To the Chairman and Members of the  
Yeardsley-cum-Whaley Urban District Council,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Report upon the sanitary conditions of the Urban District of Yeardsley-cum-Whaley for the year ending December 31st, 1925.

**Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.**

Area (in acres) 1,323.

Population: Census, 1921, 1,676; and Estimated, 1925, 1,663.

Number of Inhabited Houses, (1921) 434.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 434.

Rateable Value: £9,581 5s. 9d.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £38 10s. 0d.

The Urban District Area of Yeardsley-cum-Whaley is approximately 600 feet above the sea level, but the height in places runs up to a 1,000 feet or more. The area lies in one of the upper reaches of the Mersey Watershed, amongst the foot hills of the Peak. The surface of the area of the district is very diversified; in parts mill stone grit rock, in other parts clay or sand.

The chief occupations of the district are cotton weaving, cotton bleaching, and calico printing. It cannot be said that any of these occupations has a deleterious effect upon the health of those employed.

**Vital Statistics.**

		Total	Males	Females.	Birth Rate 15 0
Births.	Legitimate	25	12	13	
	Illegitimate	0	0	0	

The Birth Rate first year was 14'3.

The Birth Rate England and Wales for the year 1925 is 18'3.

		Total	Males	Females	
Deaths ...	...	26	11	15	Death Rate 15'6.

The Death Rate last year was 13'1.

Death Rate England and Wales for the year 1925 is 12'2.

No women died in, or in consequence of childbirth, from Sepsis.

The Number of Infants who died under one year of age per 1,000 births, is 80'0.

This is represented by a total of 2 deaths; Legitimate 2, Illegitimate 0.

There were no deaths from Measles, and no deaths from Diarrhœa under 2 years of age).

Whooping Cough accounted 1 death.

The causes of death are classified as follows:

Whooping Cough, 1; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 1; Cancer, 2; Cerebral Hæmorrhage, 3; Heart Disease, 1; Arterio Sclerosis, 1; Bronchitis, 2; Pneumonia, 2; Nephritis, 2; Suicide, 2; Other defined diseases, 9.

The amount of Poor Law relief required in the district is very small.

The Manchester Royal Infirmary, the Stockport Royal Infirmary, the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital, and St. Mary's Hospital for Women, Manchester, supply the needs of the district for urgent Surgical and Medical cases,

There has been no sickness or invalidity during the period under review to call for comment.

#### **General Provision of Health Services in the Area.**

Infectious Diseases:—Fever and Diphtheria cases are sent to the Hyde Isolation Hospital, and to the High Peak Isolation Hospital at Chinley. The Council retains two beds at the Hyde Isolation Hospital for Small Pox cases.

There is no Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children.

Ambulance Facilities:—Cases of infectious disease are removed to Hospital by Motor Ambulances belonging to the Isolation Hospitals. A Red Cross Ambulance is available for non-infectious and accident cases.

There is an Infant Welfare centre controlled by the Cheshire County Council, and a Medical Officer attends fortnightly. The Centre is well attended.

School Clinics, Tuberculosis Dispensaries, Venereal Diseases Clinics are all dealt with by County Authorities.

#### **Public Health Staff.**

The Public Health Officers of the Council consist of the Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspector, and the Surveyor who supervises the Council's water undertakings. The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector are part time officers, and the salaries of these two officers are partly contributed to by the central Public Health Authority.

Professional Nursing is done by a Queen's Nurse under the Whaley Bridge and Furness Vale District Nursing Association. The Nurse visits the homes and renders excellent service.

No provision is made for the home nursing of infectious diseases and in most instances the cases are removed to either the Isolation Hospital at Hyde or the High Peak Isolation Hospital at Chinley.

#### **Adoptive Acts,**

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act 1890 (Part iii) adopted 4th July, 1892.

Infectious disease Notification Act 1889, adopted 9th July, 1896.

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act 1907 (Sections 39—42), adopted 13th March, 1922.

Public Health Acts, Amendment Act 1907 (Section 46), adopted 26th August, 1922.

Private Street Works Act 1892, adopted 8th May, 1923.

#### **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

##### **Water—**

The chief supplies of water in your district are upland waters and an ample and constant supply is available for the needs of the district and satisfactory as regards quality.

The number of dwelling-houses supplied from the water works is 405 serving directly 97 per cent of the population.

##### **Rivers and Streams—**

The river Goyt flows through your district which is directly under the Mersey and Irwell Joint Committee so far as the control of pollution is concerned. A small portion of Stoneheads sewerage finds its way into Hockerley Clough Stream, but this will be checked when the main sewer from Whaley Lane is extended to Stoneheads.



### Drainage and Sewerage—

The sewerage of your district is treated by efficient filtration. The General System being controlled by a Joint Board. During the year 492 yards of additional sewers have been laid. I understand that in the coming year Whaley Lane sewer will be extended to Stoneheads, and I hope the Council will connect up the distant part of Hockerley Lane in the near future, and when this has been done only the out-lying farms will be outside your sewerage scheme.

### Closet Accommodation—

During the year there has been 49 conversions to the water carriage system, and 138 conversions to the water carriage system in the last five years. On December 31st there were 330 water closets, 112 privies and 18 pans. The owners of properties with privies are being pressed by your Council to convert to the water carriage system.

### Scavenging—

This work is done by the Council and has been very satisfactorily carried out during the year. The refuse is removed to a tip in the Councils area. During the year 41 moveable ash bins with proper covering have been substituted for fixed receptacles.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area—

Systematic inspections of the whole district have been made during the year, and whenever any defects have been discovered steps have been taken to have such rectified and much of the detailed work connected with sanitary administration will be found in the report of your Sanitary Inspector appended to this report.

### Smoke Abatement—

During the year cases of smoke nuisance have been kept under observation, and the offenders have been warned but the results are yet far from being satisfactory.

### Factory and Workshops Act, 1901—

All the places coming under this Act have been inspected from time to time during the year and found to be satisfactory so far as cleanliness, ventilation and sanitary arrangements were concerned. The provisions made for escape in case of fire were ample.

### Premises and occupations which can be controlled by Byelaws or Regulations—

There are no common lodging-houses in your district. The premises where tripe boiling is carried out were found to be quite satisfactory.



Schools—

The sanitary condition and water supply of the elementary school in your district is quite satisfactory and the health of the scholars good. Whenever it has been necessary to close this school owing to an outbreak of infectious disease the school has been thoroughly disinfected.

Housing.

There is to some extent a shortage of houses in the district.

This is only being met by private enterprise supplemented in some cases by subsidy.

There is no indication of any important change in population in the future.

There is no overcrowding in the district.

The general standard of housing in the area is very satisfactory.

Housing.

Number of houses erected during the year.

(a) Total . . . . .	11
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts . . . . .	10
(1) By the Local Authority . . . . .	0
(2) By other bodies or persons . . . . .	1

1. Unfit dwelling-houses—

Inspection. (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) . . . . .	449
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 . . . . .	34
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation . . . . .	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation . . . . .	0

2. Remedy of defects without service of formal notice—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers . . . . .	32
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3. Action under Statutory Powers—

(A) Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act 1919—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs . . . . .	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of informal notices . . . . .	0
(a) By owners . . . . .	0
(b) By local authority in default of owners . . . . .	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders become operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close . . . . .	0

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied . . . . .	34
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices . . . . .	32
(a) By owners . . . . .	32
(b) By local authority in default of owners . . . . .	0

(C) Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act. 1909—

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of closing orders . . . . .	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which closing orders were made . . . . .	0
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which closing orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit . . . . .	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made . . . . .	0

(5)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in per-	
	suance of demolition orders . . . . .	0

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**Inspection and Supervision of Food.**

The milk supply of the district continues to be satisfactory.

During the year there was one case of Tuberculosis in a cow. The animal was slaughtered.

All meat for consumption is inspected by the Sanitary Inspector after slaughter.

**Private Slaughter-houses.**

			1920		Jan. 1925.		Dec 1925.	
Registered	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	1
Licensed	...	...	0	...	...	0	...	1
			—			—		—
Total	...		2			2		2
			—			—		—

**Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases.  
Infectious Diseases generally.**

I am pleased to state that notifiable infectious diseases show no increase during the last 5 years. The most prevalent notifiable disease during this period being pneumonia. Only one case of Encephalitis Lethargica has occurred and no cases of Malaria, Dysentry or Trench Fever have been notified throughout the last five years.

Diphtheria Anti-Toxin is supplied by your Council and has been promptly used when necessary.

Your Council have made arrangements with the Clinical Research Association for pathological and bacteriological examinations of specimens and 17 cases have been reported upon during the last year.

The Schick and Dick tests have not been made use of.

No cases of Primary Vaccinations and re-Vaccinations have been done by the Medical Officer of Health during the year.

School intimations of disease are regularly made use of.

The District has been free from an epidemic of Influenza for a number of years.

All premises where infectious disease has occurred have been disinfected by your Sanitary Inspector.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1925.

Disease.	Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox ... ..			
Scarlet Fever ... ..	1	1	
Diphtheria ... ..	3	2	
Enteric Fever including Paratyphoid) ... ..			
Puerperal Fever ... ..			
Pneumonia ... ..	6		
Other diseases generally notifiable Erysipelas ..	2		
Other diseases notifiable locally			

Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
10								
11								
25				2				
20								
35				1				
40								
55	1							
65								
25								
55								
65 and upwards					1			
Total ..	1			3	1			

In reviewing the work of the Council during the last five years, there is on all sides evidence of steady improvement and everything points to good work being done to improve the sanitary condition of your district. The outstanding features being the completion of the Foxholme Water Scheme and the extension of the main sewerage system.

Before concluding my report may I again urge the desirability of extending and adjusting the boundaries of your district by amalgamation as I am of opinion that from a Public Health and administrative point of view such enlargement would be a great benefit to the locality.

I have the honour to be,  
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

Whaley Bridge,  
April 20th, 1926.

F. G. ALLAN,  
Medical Officer of Health.



# Sanitary Inspector's Report, 1925.

Systematic inspection of the district has been made.

34 informal notices have been served, all have been complied with except three.

## **Closet Accommodation.**

Water Closets, 330; Privies, 112; Pans, 18.

49 houses have been connected to W.C's system during the year.

There are 239 ashbins and 221 ashpits.

## **New Property.**

11 houses have been built during the year.

## **Cowsheds.**

These have been inspected during the year and found satisfactory, except in two cases. The nuisance in each case has since been remedied.

## **Factories and Workshops.**

GOYT MILL—This place is fitted with W.C's. and connected to main sewer. These are automatically worked and are quite satisfactory.

## **Workshops.**

These are all satisfactory.

## **Slaughter Houses.**

These were found to be unsatisfactory but in each case the nuisances have been remedied.

## **Bakehouses**

Mr. C W Platt's premises required white-washing, this has been carried out. Miss Boothby's premises are satisfactory.

## **Tripe Boiling.**

These premises are quite satisfactory.

## **Infectious Diseases.**

Where infectious disease cases have occurred, the premises have been fumigated and disinfected.

Signed—WILLIAM EYRE,

Sanitary Inspector





